MAY 0 1 2006

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Docket No.: 043890-0506

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Kanako MIYAZAKI, et al.

Confirmation Number: 1415

Application No.: 09/825,357

Group Art Unit: 2631

Filed: April 04, 2001

Examiner: Kevin Michael BURD

For: DISCRIMINATION APPARATUS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 30, 2006, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire April 30, 2006 (Sunday), reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following amendment and remarks.